FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MARSHALL COUNTY PRISON TARGET OF NEXT SHAKEDOWN

JACKSON – The third major shakedown in a week by the Mississippi Department of Corrections occurred today at the Marshall County Correctional Facility (MCCF) in Holly Springs.

Bags of spice and marijuana, knives or shanks, tennis shoes, cell phones, cell phone chargers and batteries, and assorted pills were removed from dormitory style housing units and individual cells. Also, crystal meth was found in the body cavity of one inmate.

The confiscated items are similar to, but fewer than, those found at the other two shakedowns at Wilkinson County Correctional Facility in Woodville and East Mississippi Correctional Facility in Meridian, respectively.

All facilities are being searched under a system wide contraband crackdown Commissioner Pelicia Hall has ordered under Operation Zero Tolerance.

"Our unannounced shakedowns are paying off and will continue," Hall said. "I thank all of the probation and parole agents and correctional officers involved for their extra work to help make MDOC safer for both staff and inmates."

Hall has extended the renewed security effort to inmates posting on Facebook and the search of visitors and vendors upon entrance to prison grounds.

MCCF, one of the state's private prisons and the oldest of the current three, has 998 inmates, two shy of its capacity.